

House Resolution No. 207

Whereas, it is with utmost respect that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause in their daily legislative endeavors in order to recognize those Show-Me State residents who truly embody the concept of “Outstanding Missourian” through their deeds and achievements; and

Whereas, Tara Shaw Sparks has attained considerable distinction as an eighth-grade English teacher at Robert H. Sperreng Middle School in the Lindbergh School District in the Saint Louis metropolitan area; and

Whereas, now in her sixth year of teaching at Sperreng Middle School, Tara Sparks has enhanced her already impressive record of accomplishment as the 2003-2004 Missouri Teacher of the Year, a prestigious honor for which she was selected by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

Whereas, Tara Sparks sees herself as a reflective person who thoroughly evaluates all aspects of her teaching and who incorporates higher-level thinking and discussion skills and includes service-learning activities in her courses, which are also characterized by variety, technology, and innovation; and

Whereas, Tara Sparks earned national certification in 2001-2002 from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, helped implement student-led parent-teacher conferences at the middle school, participated in the Missouri Assessment Program test-grading project in 2002, and earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees, among numerous other professional accomplishments; and

Whereas, on Wednesday, January 28, 2004, Tara Sparks will meet with state legislators in the Missouri House of Representatives to receive well-deserved honors and accolades for the exemplary role she has performed in Missouri as a true educational leader:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the significant contributions made by Tara Sparks on behalf of the young students of Missouri and to extend to her this legislative body's most heartfelt welcome to the state capitol on January 28, 2004, for special recognition as a guest in the House Chamber; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of "Outstanding Missourian" Tara Shaw Sparks of Saint Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Michael Vogt
District No. 66

Joined by the Entire House Membership

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 207, adopted January 26, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker